



The Arab Trade Union Women's Network

A statement condemning the interference of security forces in the Aqaba Containers Terminal Strike

Out of solidarity and support, the women committee at the Arab Trade Union Confederation (ATUC) and the Arab Trade Union Women's Network voice their condemnation of the action taken by the security forces to break up the strike organised by the employees of the Aqaba Containers Terminal (ACT) applying unacceptable means. The forces seem to have forgotten that it is the employees' right to demand their rights and defend their interests under agreements that set the international labour standards as well as those of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) a top-priority humans' right to life.

The Arab Trade Union Women's Network regrets that such a measure was taken, especially since in the week before, Jordan hosted the Founding Congress of the Arab Trade Union Confederation that called for equality, freedom, and social justice.

The Arab Trade Union Women's Network stresses the right of workers to strike in order to obtain their legal demands and utterly condemns the tone of threatening and the deployment of hundreds of gendarmerie forces at the entrances of the ACT, citing the threats of the demonstration to national economy. Moreover, the network condemns the forces' dishonouring of the agreement signed last September between the trade union committee representing the workers and the administration of the ACT, under which the company conceded to meet all the demands of labourers who are the bread earners for their families. The agreement also stipulated adherence to the international treaties and agreements Jordan is committed to.

(Signed on behalf of member Arab organisations in the Arab Trade Union Women's Network).